

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-13 are rejected. Claims 3, 5 and 7 are objected to but would be allowable if placed into independent form. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 7. Claims 7 and 13 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Daigneault et al (2002/29349). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The present invention as now defined by amended claim 1 which incorporates the subject matter of allowable claim 7. Thus, this claim should be allowed. Also, claims 2, 4, 8, 9 and 11, which depend from claim 1, should be allowed.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Duhamel et al (5,541,585). This rejection is traversed as being moot in view of the cancellation of the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daigneault et al (2002/29349). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Since claim 1 is allowable, these claims, which depend from claim 1, should be allowed.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/890,893

Attorney Docket No.: Q65785

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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